Policy on Computer Software Export, Software Development and Training announced in Dec., 1986, a liberal framework for software export has been provided through concessional customs duty on imports, grant of Cash Compensatory Support, allocation of foreign exchange for market promotion abroad, speedy single-window clearance for meeting foreign exchange requirements of imports for computer software export etc. The software exporters are also being encouraged to establish one to one contracts with buyers and project their capabilities in software shows|exhibitions|presentations abroad.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A target of Rs. 300 crores has been fixed for export of computer software by the end of the 7th Five Year Plan.

(d) Export of computer software which was Rs. 115 crores during 1988-89 is expected to rise to Rs. 175 crores during 1989-90.

Excise rebate to mini cement plants

2923. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry have given excise rebate to the mini cement plants and if so, from which date and how many mini plants in the country are entitled to get rebate due to this decision;

(b) whether it is a fact that some mini cement plants are not getting excise rebate facility due to non-availability of licence capacity certificates from the Development Commissioner of cement;

(c) whether his Ministry have since issued orders to the Development Commissioner for grant of certificates for clearing concessions by the mini cement plants in excise duty;

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(e) if not, by when his Ministry will communicate these orders to the Development Commissioner for Cement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) In the 1989 budget a concessional rate of duty at Rs. 115 per tonne was prescribed for vertical shaft kiln cement plants with total licenced capacity not exceeding 200 tonnes per day. With effect from 27th April, 1989 this concession was extended to rotary kiln cement plants of the same capacity also. Now this concession is available to cement factories with licenced capacity, as certified by the Director of Industries in the State Government or the Development Commissioner for Cement in the Ministry of Industry, not exceeding 200 tonnes per day. Information in respect of the number of plants entitled to this concession is being compiled and shall be placed on the Table of the House.

(b) No representation has been received in this Ministry from the cement factories regarding the non-availability of the licenced capacity certificate from the Development Commissioner for Cement.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Maharashtra Government's proposal for Development Boards in the State

2924. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Maharashtra Government has recently sent a proposal in regard to Vidarbha and for the rest of Maharashtra regarding fomation of Development Boards under article 371 (2) of the Constitution to the Central Government;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that recently an announcement was made by the Prime Minister for the formation of the above Boards very soon; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to implement this decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV):